Attorney's Docket No.: 06543-035001

Applicant: Brian J. Reistad et al.

Serial No.: 09/054,180 Filed: April 1, 1998

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though the number is being registered in a system that could be unsafe, or that a copy of the charge receipt could end up blowing out of the dumpster behind the building. There is a misperception that it is easier to steal profitable information on the Internet than it is during physical business transactions, which is not true.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 4-10 as being drawn to a non-elected invention.

1. (Amended) An electronic commerce system, comprising:

a client computer; and

a server computer;

the client computer and the server computer being interconnected by a public packet switched communications network;

the client computer being programmed to transmit to the server computer an order acceptance request comprising a plurality of terms or conditions of a proposed offer for a purchase, including multiple options of at least one of the terms or conditions of the proposed offer;

the server computer being programmed to process the order acceptance request based on pre-programmed criteria and, based on the processing of the order acceptance request, to transmit to the client computer an order acceptance response comprising amendment to the proposed offer for the purchase, the amendment of the proposed offer including selection of an option of the at least one of the plurality of terms or conditions.

- 2. (Amended) An electronic commerce system, comprising:
- a client computer; and
- a server computer;

the client computer and the server computer being interconnected by a public packet switched communications network;

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the client computer being programmed to transmit to the server computer an order acceptance request comprising a plurality of terms or conditions of a proposed offer for a purchase;

the server computer being programmed to process the order acceptance request based on pre-programmed criteria and, based on [the] processing of the order acceptance request by the server computer, to transmit to the client computer an order acceptance response comprising a plurality of amendments to the proposed offer for the purchase including an amended price.

3. (Amended) An electronic commerce system, comprising:

a client computer; and

a server computer;

the client computer and the server computer being interconnected by a public packet switched communications network;

the client computer being programmed to transmit to the server computer an order acceptance request comprising a plurality of terms or conditions of a proposed offer for a purchase, the order acceptance request comprising a plurality of modular elements individually protected by cryptographic security codes;

the server computer being programmed to process the order acceptance request based on pre-programmed criteria, including authentication of the cryptographic security codes and examination of the modular elements individually protected by the cryptographic security codes, and, based on [the] processing of the order acceptance request by the server computer, to transmit to the client computer an order acceptance response based on the pre-programmed criteria.

In the Abstract:

Please delete the following sentences at the end of the abstract:

"The processing of the order acceptance request is performed by a controller module that handles processing of the order acceptance request that is primarily not specific to a particular application of the electronic commerce system to which the order acceptance request pertains,